

Presentation format: Oral / Poster

Novelty *Vanda* hybrids using *Vanda* species

Martin R. Motes^{1,2}

¹ Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Coral Gables, Florida, USA

² Motes Orchids, Redland, Florida, USA

Of the 87 species in the genus *Vanda*, only four, *V. coerulea*, *V. luzonica*, *V. tricolor* and *V. dearei*, have been used in conjunction with *V. sanderiana* to produce the overwhelming majority of *Vanda* hybrids to date. Many other species possess aesthetically appealing flowers which have great potential to produce attractive flowers in hybrids between themselves and with hybrids of *V. sanderiana*. Because of the superior plant architecture of most *Vanda* species to that of *V. sanderiana*, these hybrids grow more vigorously, mature more quickly and bloom more frequently. These qualities also make many *Vanda* hybrids with limited influence from *V. sanderiana*, less dependent on high light and very warm temperatures, making them more easily grown in temperate zone greenhouses and adaptable to use in landscape settings in milder climes. This paper sets forth some successes achieved using five species, *V. denisoniana*, *V. insignis*, *V. suavis*, *V. lamellata* and *V. tessellata*. The potential of other species to produce successful hybrids is also illustrated.

Keywords: *Vanda*, *V. denisoniana*, *V. insignis*, *V. lamellata*, *V. suavis*, *V. tessellata*